



United States Environmental Protection Agency Notice of Proposed Order for Subsurface Investigation

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Caribbean Airport Facilities, Inc., have agreed to a proposed Administrative Order on Consent for the subsurface investigation of the Eastern portion of the Luis Munoz Marin International Airport in Isla Verde, Carolina, Puerto Rico. The subsurface investigation by Caribbean Airport Facilities, Inc., will supplement an ongoing subsurface investigation of the remaining portions of the Airport by the Puerto Rico Ports Authority, Allied Aviation Services of Puerto Rico, Inc., BP Products North America, Inc., Esso Standard Oil Company (Puerto Rico), Shell Company (Puerto Rico) Ltd., and Texaco Puerto Rico, Inc.

EPA will issue the proposed Order to protect the sensitive ecosystems of Puerto Rico which may be impacted by spills and improper management of aviation jet fuel. Caribbean Airport Facilities, Inc., has agreed to the terms of the proposed Order, which will be issued under Section 7003 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). RCRA Section 7003 governs solid and hazardous waste management, and gives EPA the authority to issue Orders in cases where the management of solid or hazardous waste may present an imminent and substantial endangerment to human health or the environment.

The proposed Order requires Caribbean Airport Facilities, Inc., to delineate the vertical and horizontal nature and extent of contamination with aviation jet fuel and aviation jet fuel degradation products in the groundwater and soils in the eastern portion of the Luis Munoz Marin International Airport. The proposed Order also requires Caribbean Airport Facilities, Inc., to repair equipment related to the distribution of jet fuel in the eastern portion of the Airport. EPA will administer the Order and oversee the work to be performed. The proposed Order also provides for interim and emergency measures as necessary to protect human health and the environment, as well as stipulated penalties for failure to carry out the requirements of the Order.

EPA is seeking the public's comments on the proposed Order. EPA will carefully evaluate all comments received, and will consider modifying the proposed Order, as appropriate, to reflect any relevant comments raising matters not already addressed in the Order.

Copies of the proposed Order are available to the public at EPA's Region 2 Caribbean Environmental Protection Division at Centro Europa Building, Suite 417, 1492 Ponce de Leon Avenue, Stop 22, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00907-4127.

EPA is holding a public availability meeting on September 2, 2009, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in Carolina, at the Universidad del Este, Salon de Actos, Ave. Principal Sabana, Carr. 190, Barrio Sabana Abajo. EPA representatives will explain the proposed Order and respond to any questions or comments the public may have. Written comments on the proposed Order must be mailed to EPA, postmarked on or before September 16, 2009, at the following address:

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2
290 Broadway, 21st Floor
New York, NY 10007-1866
Attention: Mr. Leonard Grossman

For further information, please call EPA representative Mr. Leonard Grossman, at (212) 637-4039.